

Reader

Genre	Build Background	Access Content	Extend Language
Fiction	• Creativity • Problem Solving • U.S. History	• Labels in Pictures • Patterned Text	• Possessive Pronouns

Scott Foresman Reading Street 2.3.4



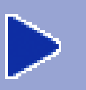
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American Hero Day

by Alice Cary
Illustrated by Barbara Kiwak







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The second graders were ready for American Hero Day. Tonight their parents would come to see the children's work. Each child had painted a mask of a famous American.

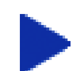
But many of the masks were a mess. A cat had run inside the school. The cat stepped in paint and ran on the masks.

"Oh no! The masks are ruined!" said Mr. Brown, the teacher.

"What can we do?" Carlos asked. "Who will save our day? We need our own hero."

"We can paint new masks," Mary said.

"There isn't time," Mr. Brown said.

"I have an idea," Carlos said. "Do you remember our visit to Baker School? They had Hero Day too. Maybe we can borrow their masks."

"That's a great idea!" Mr. Brown said. "I'll call Mrs. Clay, the teacher there."

Mr. Brown went to the office. He called Mrs. Clay.

"Yes, you may borrow our masks," Mrs. Clay said. She soon came with many masks.

"Mrs. Clay is our hero!" Mary said. Everyone felt better.

Soon parents filled the room. They loved the art on the walls. Everyone was excited.

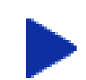
The second graders came on stage. Some had their own masks. Some had masks from Baker School. The masks were art, too.

"There are many great Americans," Mary said. "There are many great heroes."

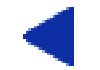
"Today we had a problem," Mr. Brown said. "A cat almost ruined our day."

"But Carlos had a super idea," Mr. Brown said. "Carlos was our own hero."









Each student showed a mask.

"My mask is Ben Franklin," Carlos said. "He helped the USA to be free."

"My mask is Sally Ride," Mary said. "She flew in space."

Everyone clapped for the American heroes. Everyone clapped for the second-grade class.



Talk About It

1. How did the class solve the problem of the ruined masks?
2. What makes a person a hero? Who do you think is a hero?

Write About It

3. On a separate sheet of paper, draw a picture or mask of a famous person. Write about him or her.

Extend Language

The words *their masks* means "masks that belong to *them*." What do the words *our masks* mean? If a girl owned a mask, would she call it "*my* mask" or "*your* mask"?

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